

**Wellington Garden Club  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, August 28, 2024  
Wellington Community Center**

**Attendance:** JoAnn Akins, Alison Albury, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Ferrano, Carol Ralph, Dee Rolfe, Jan Seagrave, John Siena, Kathy Siena, Danese Sloan-Kendall, Maria Wolfe, Linda Messina, Mimi Borowy, Carol Dima

**I. Meeting Called to Order at 9:34am**

- A. A quorum was established
- B. All cell phones were silenced
- C. A signup sheet was sent around for Board Members to sign up to bring a brunch item for the September 9, 2024 membership meeting.
- D. The beautiful name tags for all officers are compliments of Marianne Forrest.
- E. The yearbooks for 2024-2025 Season as available to pick up today.
- F. As Cynthia Gardner is not here today, Jan Seagrave has been good enough to man the recorder.

**II. Officer Reports**

**A. Recording Secretary** – Minutes of April 24, 2024 BOD and the August 28, 2024 meeting will be submitted for approval at the October 2, 2024 meeting.

**B. President's Report:**

- a. There were 94 attendees total at the April 1, 2024 Membership meeting with 7 guests.
- b. There will not be a Sunset Social in September, however there will be one every additional month except December.

**C. Treasurer** – Danese Sloan-Kendall

- a. Danese gave the Treasurer's Report dated 8/4/24, copy attached. She also asked if there were any questions on the P&L dated 8/4/24, which is also attached. She reported that the IRA, 501(c)3 and CPA reports are all completed.
- b. Danese advised that Marianne Forrest will be handling all deposits and reimbursements effective immediately.
- c. Stormi Bivin questioned Danese about the account number to use for the TKA expense items. Stormi also questioned why we are already showing an expense of \$250 each for the Holiday and Spring Luncheons. Danese explained that these are deposits for the venue for each luncheon.

**D. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** – A 1<sup>st</sup> VP has not been found. Carol Ralph will make a plea at the membership meeting.

**E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Kimberly Helms reported on the speaker for the September 9 meeting in Kristi Westrup's absence - Mike Sands – Topic – Common Pests & Fungus on Trees and Turf.

**F. Corresponding Secretary** – Jan Seagrave – Jan sent out a few cards this summer for members who had surgery. Reminded Board members that if we know any member who is ill, has surgery, or a death in their family to please let her know.

**III. Standing Committee Reports**

- A. New A & A Chairs are Kimberly Helms & Tara Green – Kimberly reported our September 19, 2024 Around & About will be to Gumbo Limbo, Boca Raton. Lunch will be at Mikonos Grill Restaurant in Boca Raton as well.
- B. Newsletter – Tina Richter-Becker – Tina advised that she is retiring this year. May will be her last issue and asked for a member who might be interested to please contact her.
- C. Website – Carol Ralph advised the Speakers for 2024-2025 are posted on the website.

#### **IV. Special Committee Reports**

- A.** Environmental Committee – Diane Rice – The Coastal Cleanup will be September 14, 2024 for WGC members. She also reported on the FDEP proposed changes to nine of Florida State Parks and the public's response to those proposed changes. Marianne Forrest spoke on the fact that this is not yet resolved and to be sure and vote as this will be on the ballot when we vote this fall.
- B.** Holiday Luncheon – December 2, 2024 at WNG – Dee Rolfe and Carol Ralph are co-chairs – Dee Rolfe reported. December 2, 2024, 11:00am – 2:00pm, at Wellington National Golf Club. Cost will be \$46.00 per person. Entrees will be fish, chicken and vegetarian plates. Dee will chair the raffle. Cass Stryker suggested we do Toys for Tots and volunteered to handle that – which we will do. Stormi Bivin will arrange for Fairy Hair by Samantha. Dee Rolfe went into detail about her plans and has been forming committees. We will use our standard letters to submit to the business that give us a donation.
- C.** Minute for Gardening – Ann Hlasnicek – Carol Ralph advised that at Ann's suggestion we have a different club member speak at each meeting on their favorite plant/flower/subject. The schedule for the season has been set.
- D.** District X Fall Meeting – Marianne Forrest spoke for Maria Wolfe. Hosted by Rio Lindo Garden Club on Monday, October 28, 2024. Topic is "Everything Atala: Celebrating the Return of the Atala Butterfly to Florida". See attached for more information.
- E.** 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Tropical Short Course – Marianne Forrest spoke for Maria Wolfe – at the Wellington Community Center on January 23 and 24, 2025. Topic is Off the Grid. See attached for more information.
- F.** Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest – Carol Ralph advised that Katherine Schneider & Selma Wang have agreed to chair this contest. See attached for additional information. Kathy Siena spoke for Kathy Schneider.
- G.** TKA – Stormi Bivin spoke about the line up for the year. Tina Richter will have it listed in the Newsletter. Stormi Bivin (for new members) explained how this is a fundraiser for WGC.
- H.** WGC NGC Small Standard Flower Show – May 5, 2025 – Carol Ralph read Twig Morris's report (see attached). It is in conjunction with the Spring Luncheon.

#### **V. Old Business**

- A.** WGC Flyers and brochures created by VOW – Carol Ralph has supplies.

#### **VI. New Business**

- A.** Irma Philmus, a new WGC member, also belongs to Valencia Reserve, will be attending our membership meeting in November with 20-25 of their members. They will also bring brunch items and coffee – Carol Ralph.
- B.** Mounts Botanical Garden – School Program Funding – Let's All Go to the Garden – What Mounts is looking for is funds to help them maintain the program. Carol Ralph moved that "WGC donate to Mounts program "Let's All Go to the Garden". Uma Bhatti seconded the motion. The motion did not carry. See attached for more information.
- C.** 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree Planting – Kathy Siena – September 28, 2024, 8:30 am at Rotary Peace Park.
- D.** Pick & Grow Tree Planting Project – Kathy Siena & Katherine Wagner-Reiss – are researching this offer. Kathy Siena reported on the group "Community Green". Will Gurney from VOW will help with the planting.
- E.** NGC Youth Poetry Contest 2024 – (see attached information) Carol asked for a volunteer to handle this.
- F.** "Saving Endangered Florida Panthers" Presentation – October 24, 2024 – Carol Ralph reported on this event which is co-sponsored with Oleander Garden Club Palm Beach. We will be working simultaneously to sell tickets and prepare for this event. See attached flyer. Tickets can be purchased online.
- G.** Outing to Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium – Spring 2025 – Carol Ralph advised that a representative from Roger Dean contacted us regarding organizing an outing to see the

Spring training of major leagues and/or minor leagues games. He will advise me when the schedule is set.

- H. Organic Gardening Supplies – OrganicREV.com contacted Carol Ralph about a free offer they have of 1 oz bottle of the Organic REV. Through discussion, it was decided to advise membership of this offer and let individual members contact the organization if they are interested.

**VII. Announcements**

- A. Stormi Bivin will have free seed packets donated by Ace Rocky Hardware.
- B. Stormi Bivin also gave kudos on the yearbook. The cover photo was created by Twig Morris.
- C. Cass Stryker commended Diane Rice on the Turtle Watch. She said it was a wonderful evening and they saw a 200 lb. turtle lay her eggs.
- D. Marianne Forrest asked members to leave their name tags.
- E. Kimberly Helms reported on an idea she has of exchanging plants and/or seeds of native plants at the membership meetings. Lisa Ferrano stated that as October is native plant month it would be a good thing to do.

Dee Rolfe gave away a gift. Stormi Bivin won.

**VIII. Meeting was adjourn at 11:08 am.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Ralph